GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2848
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Shortage of Staff in FCI
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of workers and employees in the Food Corporation of India (FCI);
(b) if so, the details thereof and efforts made to meet the said shortage;
(c) whether the FCI proposes to containerise the transportation of foodgrains; and
(d) if so, the details and the likely benefits thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a) Yes, Madam.
(b) The position in respect of workers is as under:
â€¢ FCI has three types of Departmental workers i.e. Regular Departmental, under Direct Payment System (DPS) and under no Work No Pay system. Besides these FCI also arranges workers through contracts, wherever there are no Departmental works restriction.
â€¢ Based on settlement with workers unions and notification of some of the depots of FCI and railheads for its operations under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition), Act, 1971, the required strength of Regular Workers was worked out as 49529 in 2007.
â€¢ However, after 2007, there have been tremendous changes in the volume and pattern of operations in FCI Depots due to variation in procurement and distribution levels across the country coupled with retirement of workers. There is presently a shortage of 8687 workers at all India level, even though at micro level some of depots still have surplus labour.
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â€¢ As per the directions/observations given by Hon'ble Nagpur bench of Bombay High Court, requirement of Regular workers in settlement/notified depots are being rationalized through labour pooling/ transfer from depots having surplus workers to depots having deficit workers.
The details of required workers along with current strength and shortfall are as under:

Type of worker	Required Strength	Current Strength (As on 31.12.2015)	Shortfall
Own Departmental	18964**	15723	-3241
DPS	31659**	25651	-5008
NWNP	7857*	7419	-438
Total of 'Regular Workers'	58480	48793	-8687

*Requirement worked out during 2010-11
**Requirement worked out during 2007
â€¢ As regard efforts made to meet the shortage, High Level Committee headed by Shri Shantakumar, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) has recommended that after denotification of notified depots, contract labour may be deployed in FCI depots to reduce the cost of handling.
â€¢ Hon'ble High Court of Bombay, Nagpur bench had also directed Govt. of India to denotify the notified depot so that workers may be pooled in few depots and contract workers be deployed in the vacant released depots to optimize the cost of handling as the regular workers under department category are more than 8 times higher than the contract workers.
â€¢ In view of HLC recommendations and High Court directions as above there is presently no planning to induct any labour in FCI.
â€¢ The position in respect of employees is as under:
â€¢ Against Sanctioned Strength of 36982 employees, only 21139 regular employees are in position (as on 31.12.2015) & hence at present there are 15843 vacancies.

â€¢ The Category-wise break-up is given below:
Category
Sanctioned strength
Men in position
Vacancy/ Excess
Category-I
1111
855
-256
Category-II
6221
4164
-2057
Category-III
27270
12487
-14783
Category-IV
2380
3633
+1253
Total
36982
21139
-15843
....3/-
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A detailed note on efforts being made to fill up the vacancies of employees are given in Annexure.
(c): Yes, Madam.
(d): FCI transports foodgrains from surplus regions to deficit regions. About 45 million tonnes of foodgrains per year are transported using the most economical mode for a particular route. About 90% of foodgrains is transported through Railway using conventional rakes, both BCNA (Broad Gauge Body Covered Air Brakes) and BCNHL (Broad Gauge Bogie Covered Air Brakes-Heavy Load) wagons.
The conventional rakes are readily provided by the Indian Railway and can operate on all railheads across the country. For transportation of such large quantity of foodgrains, conventional Railway rakes are operationally and economically most effective.
FCI is using containers for bulk movement of foodgrains from Kaithal (Haryana) and Moga (Punjab) base silos in procuring regions to Taloja (Maharashtra), Madukurai (Tamil Nadu), Elavur (Tamil Nadu), Malur (Karnataka) and Bandal (West Bengal) field silos in consuming regions. Containers are also used in coastal transportation of foodgrain from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala.
Containerized movement on these routes have provided operational advantages of controlling transit losses.
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ANNEXURE
ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2848 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2016 IN THE LOK SABHA.
â€¢ FCI is in the process for filling up of 5596 vacancies across all cadres (Category-I-22, Category-II-374 and Category-III-5200) by the way of competitive Recruitment process. The Advertisement for the above Recruitment process was published during the period from February, 2015 to July, 2015.
â€¢ Final result in respect of Cat.III of North East Zone-211 vacancies has been declared and 160 candidates have already joined. Final result of West Zone-821 vacancies and South Zone-1322 vacancies has already been declared and process of issuance of Offer of Appointment is under process. Final result in respect of East Zone-675 vacancies is likely to be declared by this week. The Written Test for 2171 vacancies of North Zone has already been conducted and the document verification process of Phase-I is completed and for Phase-II of Document Verification is likely to be held in 3rd week of March, 2016.
â€¢ The result of the written test in respect of Category-I was declared on 04.02.2016 and interview of shortlisted candidates will be held from 19 to 21 March, 2016.
â€¢ Moreover, the recruitment process of Management Trainee (MT) 374 vacancies, the written Test has been conducted on 25.10.2015. Result of Written Test is likely to be declared by 3rd Week of March, 2016. This will be followed by interview and Group discussion.
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